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full of life in her mind, that is so deeply impressed by the wild beauty of this remote province, and by the strange admixture of races by which it is peopled. The authoress describes the Saxons, Roumanians, and gypsies very fully, while she gives only a passing glance to the Hungarians. It is probably because she became more intimately acquainted with the former, and studied their customs and beliefs more thoroughly, that she confines herself to the description of this part of Transylvanian life. The large amount of interesting and valuable ethnological information collected by the authoress deserves our full admiration. Customs and beliefs which have survived from the ancient days of paganism or from the superstitions of the middle ages offer a peculiar interest to the student of the history of civilization; and the present volume contains much that is worth a thorough study, and that will interest the thoughtful reader. The descriptions of the country and of its inhabitants are vivid, and made more impressive by numerous illustrations, which are the more welcome, as Transylvanian scenery is little known, and has not yet received much attention by artists.

*Manual of Chemistry.* By W. SIMON. 2d ed. Philadelphia, Lea Bros. & Co. 8°.

THIS manual is designed to be a guide to lectures and laboratory work for beginners in chemistry, and a text-book specially adapted for students of pharmacy and medicine. The contents are divided into seven parts. The first part treats of the fundamental properties of matter, extension or figure, divisibility, gravitation, and porosity. In the second are considered the fundamental principles of chemistry, including chemical divisibility, the laws of chemical combination, the determination of atomic weights, the decomposition of compounds, and some general remarks regarding elements. Non-metals and metals, with their combinations, are next discussed. Then follow analytical chemistry and the consideration of carbon compounds or organic chemistry, while the last part is devoted to physiological chemistry. As a help in laboratory-work, experiments are described which may be readily performed by students with a small amount of apparatus. Professor Simon, in common with other teachers, has often noticed how difficult it is for beginners to familiarize themselves with the variously shaded colors of chemicals and their reactions; and, in order to remove this difficulty as far as possible, he has introduced into the manual seven plates, which contain fifty-six representations of the most important color-changes. The coloring is remarkably correct, and will undoubtedly do much to overcome the difficulty which these plates were designed to meet. The book is in other respects fairly well illustrated. The typography and general make-up of the book are excellent, and we have no doubt that it will meet the same favor which was accorded to the first edition.

#### PUBLISHERS' FALL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

##### Estes & Lauriat.

For young people: 'Zigzag Journeys in the Antipodes,' a volume which takes the reader to Siam, and tells him of the interesting animal-worship of the country; 'The Knockabout Club in the Antilles,' by F. A. Ober; and 'Hunting in the Jungle,' from 'Les Animaux Sauvages,' by Warren F. Kellogg. 'The Pioneers of the Alps: A Collection of Portraits of the Leading Guides of the Oberland, of the Valais, of Savoy, and of Piedmont,' by C. D. Cunningham and Captain Abney. 'Fingers and Fortune: A Guide-Book to Palmistry,' by Eveline M. Farwell. 'The Pocket Encyclopædia,' containing 1,206 columns, upwards of 25,000 references, and numerous plates (published by subscription only). Editions de Luxe of standard and fine art works now issuing or soon to be issued (to subscribers only): 'History of Greece and of the Greek People, from the Earliest Times to the Roman Conquest,' by Victor Duruy; and 'Birds in Nature,' by R. Bowdler Sharpe.

##### Thomas Nelson & Sons.

'David Livingstone, the Story of his Life and Travels,' with many illustrations; 'The Emperor of Germany,' William I.: A Life Sketch,' by Athol Mayhew, with 8 full-page illustrations by R. Caton Woodville; 'Little Arthur at the Zoo, and What he saw there — Birds,' by Mary Seymour; 'The Story of the Niger: A

Record of Travel and Adventure from the Days of Mungo Park to the Present Time,' by Robert Richardson; 'India, Pictorial and Descriptive,' by the author of 'The Mediterranean,' illustrated with 112 fine engravings; 'The Nineteenth Century: A History,' by R. Mackenzie (new edition, revised and enlarged); in the Pen and Pencil Series, 'Irish Pictures, drawn with Pen and Pencil,' by Rev. Samuel Manning, LL.D., Rev. S. G. Green, D.D., and others; 'Great Authors, from Goldsmith to Wordsworth,' with biographies and copious selections from their writings; 'Great Authors, from Macaulay to Browning,' with biographies and copious selections from their writings.

##### Frederick A. Stokes & Brother.

'The Golden Age of Patents,' by Wallace Peck, a most amusing parody on Yankee inventiveness, filled with clever skits, well illustrated by various humorous artists; 'Oysters and Fish,' by Thomas J. Murrey, a most complete and important work on the subject, deemed by the author himself as one of his most valuable books, and containing over 150 recipes and much interesting information regarding shell-fish and fish of many kinds; 'Eight Songs of Horace,' edited by George E. Vincent, a remarkable novelty, which has received the most careful attention in every detail, being an attempt to reproduce with all possible exactness a Roman book of the classic period; 'Favorite Birds, and What the Poets sing of Them,' edited by Josephine Pollard; 'The Game of Chess,' an entirely new edition, based upon Staunton's great work, and containing all essential parts of it; in the Lives of the Presidents Series, 'Grover Cleveland,' by William O. Stoddard; 'Madonnas by Old Masters,' being as exact facsimiles of the originals as it is possible to make by any process resulting in a copper or steel plate (the publishers know of nothing of their general nature which copy the same paintings and can compare with these valuable plates).

##### Miscellaneous.

The ninth volume of 'Alden's Manifold Cyclopædia' (New York, J. B. Alden) is out. — 'Pen and Ink: Papers on Subjects of More or Less Importance,' by Brander Matthews, will be issued shortly by Longmans, Green, & Co. It contains essays on Locker and Austin Dobson, on war songs and short stories, on the antiquity of jests, and on the ethics of plagiarism, and also the first serious paper yet written on the genesis and practice of the American game of poker. 'B.C. 1887' is the odd title of a volume of travels in British Columbia, by the authors of 'Three in Norway,' Messrs. Lees and Clutterbuck, to be issued this month by the same publishers. Although humorous in manner and full of anecdote, 'B.C. 1887' is an account of a serious expedition of two young Englishmen who came to America with a view to settling in the Dominion. — D. Appleton & Co. will publish on or about Nov. 1 a new volume by Sir John Lubbock, entitled 'On the Senses, Instincts, and Intelligence of Animals, with Special Reference to Insects.' It will form Vol. LXIV. of the International Scientific Series. The same firm announces 'A Manual of Decorative Composition,' for designers, decorators, architects, and industrial artists, by Henri Mayeux, architect to the French Government, with nearly 300 illustrations; 'A Dictionary of Terms in Art,' elaborately illustrated; 'Nature and Man, — Essays Scientific and Philosophical,' by the late Dr. W. B. Carpenter, with an introductory memoir by J. E. Carpenter; and 'The Folk-Lore of Plants,' by T. F. Thiselton Dyer. — Charles Scribner's Sons published last week 'Children's Stories of the Great Scientists,' brief biographies of sixteen of the world's great scientists, by Miss H. C. Wright, with 8 full-page portraits. — Harper & Brothers have ready 'The Boy Travellers in Australasia,' by Col. Thomas W. Knox, a description of the isles of the Pacific; and 'Shoshone and other Western Wonders,' an account of sights and scenery worth seeing in the Far West, by Edwards Roberts, with an introduction by Charles Francis Adams. Messrs. Harper and Brothers announce that John Morley's English Men of Letters Series, which hitherto has been issued in thirty-six volumes, has now been compressed into a People's Edition of twelve volumes. — Mayor Hewitt's more or less cheerful face adorns the first page of *Harper's Weekly* for Oct. 17. The supplement is devoted to a description, pictorial and otherwise, of 'The United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,' by Henry P. Wells. — Houghton, Mifflin, & Co.

announce Mr. Hurlbert's book, 'Ireland under Cogrcion,' which has created so much discussion in Great Britain. — Thomas Whitaker is about to publish a library edition of Pascal's 'Thoughts,' from the text of Molinier, by C. Kegan Paul. He also begins a new series of illustrated books under the title of 'Whittaker's Home Library.' The first three volumes will be 'Romance of Animal Life,' by J. G. Wood; 'Leaders Upward and Onward,' by H. C. Ewart; and 'Round the Globe,' by W. C. Proctor. — Robert Clarke & Co. have in press a book by Joseph S. Tunison, of the New York *Tribune's* editorial staff, to be entitled 'Master Vergil: a Series of Studies upon the Mediæval Reputation of the Author of the *Æneid*.' 'Vergil and the Devil,' 'Vergil in Literary Tradition,' 'Vergil's Book of Magic,' 'Vergil the Man of Science,' 'Vergil the Saviour of Rome,' 'Vergil the Lover,' 'Vergil the Prophet,' and 'Vergil in Later Literature,' are the chapter headings, and give a fair idea of the contents and character of the book. — Henry Willey, New Bedford, Mass., has just published 'A Synopsis of the North American Lichens, Part II.,' by the late Edward Tuckerman, comprising the *Lecideacei* and (in part) the *Graphidacei*. The work, which was left unfinished at the time of the author's death, has been completed by Mr. Willey, who has also added other lichens from Professor Tuckerman's various works. Students of this interesting and difficult branch of botanical science have now for the first time a handy manual by two of its foremost exponents. Edwin Nelson, Amherst, Mass., will supply the book to the trade. — D. C. Heath & Co. have begun the publication of a series of leaflets for the guidance of students of English literature of the nineteenth century, prepared by Louise Manning Hodgkins, professor of English literature at Wellesley College. The following English and American authors will be included: Scott, Lamb, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Macaulay, Dickens, Thackeray, Robert Browning, Mrs. Browning, Carlyle, George Eliot, Tennyson, Rossetti, Irving, Bryant, Hawthorne, Longfellow, Emerson, Whittier, Holmes, and Lowell. The Tennyson, George Eliot, Hawthorne, and Longfellow papers are now ready. — Cassell & Co. announce a work entitled 'The Truth about Russia,' by W. T. Stead, editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who does not, it is said, share the traditional British attitude of suspicion toward the empire of the north. — Ginn & Co. will publish in December, in the College Series of Latin Authors (edited under the supervision of Clement L. Smith and Tracy Peck), 'Cicero's Brutus,' edited by Martin Kellogg, professor of Latin in the University of California. In the 'Brutus,' which was composed in 46 B.C., and purports to be a conversation with Atticus and Brutus, Cicero traces the development of oratory among the Romans down to his own time, with critical notices of about two hundred speakers. The long catalogue is relieved of dryness by the dialogue form, the freedom of digression, and by Cicero's fresh and teeming style. Professor Kellogg has edited the work especially for early college-reading. — J. B. Lippincott Company announce as in press 'The Writer's Hand-Book,' a general guide to the art of composition and style; 'An Elementary Treatise on Human Anatomy' (entirely new edition), by Joseph Leidy; 'A Cyclopædia of Diseases of Children and their Treatment, Medical and Surgical,' edited by J. M. Keating, M.D.; 'Paradoxes of a Philistine,' by William S. Walsh; 'History of the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Promulgation of the Constitution of the United States,' edited by Hampton L. Carson; 'The Clinical Diagnosis of Non-Surgical Diseases by Bacteriological, Chemical, and Microscopical Methods of Research,' by Dr. Rudolf von Jaksch, translated into English by Dr. Cagney. — 'The Private Correspondence of Daniel O'Connell,' to be published in two volumes in October by Longmans, Green, & Co., consists chiefly of hitherto unpublished letters of the liberator, abundantly annotated, and connected by only sufficient narrative to explain their occasion. Although called private, O'Connell's letters, even those to his wife, are chiefly on public topics. There is a peculiar timeliness in the publication just now of this first-hand and personal account of the successful struggle for Catholic emancipation, and of the later ineffectual effort for the Repeal of the Union. — In *Lippincott's* for November an article of particular interest is Mr. Edgar Saltus's 'Morality in Fiction.' Another article that will be eagerly perused is the 'Extracts from the Diary of John R.

Thompson,' compiled by Elizabeth Stoddard. Thompson, a well-known Southern *littérateur*, was sent to London to edit the *Index* on behalf of the Confederacy, and he was thrown with men like Tennyson, Carlyle, Gladstone, Dickens, Thackeray, and many others, of whom he gives entertaining reminiscences and anecdotes. Lincoln L. Eyre's article on 'Corporate Suretyship' is interesting and valuable.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

THE topographic work of the arid lands and irrigation survey has been completed at the United States Geological Survey in Washington, and all the parties to be employed this year are already in the field. The hydrographic branch involves some very difficult scientific problems, the solution of which may cause some delay. Among these are the discovery of a method that shall be more accurate than any now employed to measure the volume of water that passes through a river. This is probably among the simplest of the problems. Another is a means of ascertaining the amount of sediment a river carries, and a third is the invention of some method of determining the annual amount of evaporation from the surfaces of the proposed reservoirs.

— General Greely, in his annual report, says that the percentages of successful weather-predictions made by the signal office for the year were 78.4; wind, 75.5; temperature, 74.2; general average, 76.7. The number of cold-wave signals displayed was 1,743, of which 1,240, or 71.5 per cent, were verified.

— Dr. Theodore Gill, at the meeting of the Washington Biological Society last Saturday evening, read a paper on 'The Families of Fishes.' He said that in 1872, after eleven years' study of the subject, he published a list of the families of fishes numbering 244. Subsequent studies have increased this number to 300. Cuvier recognized only 30. At the same meeting Dr. Gill defended his use of the suffix 'idæ' to the Greek or Latin root to designate a family instead of 'atidæ,' the one used by naturalists for a century. He read letters from the most distinguished Greek and Latin scholars in the country, asserting that 'idæ' was grammatically the only proper form. The members of the society who discussed the subject were not convinced by Dr. Gill's arguments and authorities.

— 'Sexual Characteristics of the Lachnosternis' was the title of a paper read by Mr. J. B. Smith of the Department of Agriculture, before the Washington Biological Society at its meeting last Saturday evening. It described a study by the author, last summer, of the June-bug, about which, strange to say, entomologists before knew comparatively little. The study resulted in the identification, among the many thousands of specimens captured in the District of Columbia, of four strongly marked, well-defined species, the female as well as the male of each species being determined.

— In a pamphlet, 'Great-Circle Sailing,' published by Longmans, Green, & Co., Richard A. Proctor advocates the use of the stereographic polar projection for laying out the shortest sea-routes. As is well known, the gnomonic projection is used for finding the great circle between two points that are not too far distant from each other. As this projection, however, does not allow the representation of more than about one-third of the earth's surface, it is not suitable for finding the great circle between points that are far apart. Proctor uses the property of the stereographic projection, that each circle on the sphere is projected into a circle, which may be constructed on the map with great ease. Thus, by laying a circle through two points and one of their antipodes, the shortest route between the two points is found. A similar construction permits the finding of the shortest route which does not cross a certain degree of latitude beyond which navigation would be dangerous. Two maps of the earth are constructed, — one in south polar projection, the other in north polar projection, — and each is adapted to construct routes in one hemisphere.

— Prof. Dr. Paulsen of the University of Berlin, Germany, in a letter in regard to the Berlitz schools of languages, says, "The method of Mr. Berlitz appears to me, as far as I have had the opportunity of familiarizing myself with it by some lessons and the expedients applied, a process specially suited to lead the pupil rapidly, safely, and with comparatively little trouble to himself, —